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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/805,376 | 03/14/2001 | Jake Hill | 36-1578 | 1537 |
| 23117 | 7590 | 11/15/2005 | EXAMINER . | |
| NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203 | | | CHUONG, TRUC T | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2179 | |

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/805,376

Applicant(s)

HILL ET AL.

Examiner

Truc T. Chuong

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to an Amendment, filed 08/22/05.

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8-9, 12-13, 19-20, 23 and 24 are independent claims. In the Amendment, claims 1-24 are amended. This action is made final.

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-24 are objected to because of the following informalities, for example, in claim 1 at line 9 (the last sentence of the claim), it should be "said second hardware interface" instead of "said second interface". Other claims have a similar problem such as claims 6, 7, etc.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Thakur et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,306 B1).

As to claims 1, 13, and 24, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device comprising:

Art Unit: 2179

a first hardware interface physically disposed in said device for receiving data from a first zone in a first zone data format (hardware cryptographic processor 113 processes/encrypts/decrypts data from memory 111 and processor 110, e.g., col. 3 lines 22-45, and figs. 1-2);

- means disposed within said device for processing said received data through performance of a cryptographic operation on at least a portion thereof (hardware cryptographic processor 113 encrypting data, e.g., col. 3 line 59-col. 4 line 2, and fig. 2);

a second hardware interface disposed in said device for sending said processed data to a second zone in a second zone data format (network controller 112 will be received encrypted data from hardware cryptographic processor 113, e.g., col. 3 line 62-col. 4 line 13, and fig. 1);

one of said interfaces being connectable to a host computer system (network controller 112 connects to a host computer 104 through network line 108, e.g., col. 3 lines 25-55, line 62-col. 4 line 13, and fig. 1); and

means disposed within said device arranged to pass said processed data exclusively from said processing means to said second interface within said device (bus 114 is a signal line communicating between network controller 112 and hardware cryptographic processor 113, e.g., col. 4 lines 23-54, and figs. 1 & 3).

As to claim 2, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

means disposed within said device arranged to convert said received data in said first zone data format into at least one data format other than said first zone data format prior to said data processing (hardware cryptographic processor 113 processes/encrypts/decrypts data from

Art Unit: 2179

memory 111 and processor 110, and network controller 112 will be received encrypted data from hardware cryptographic processor 113, e.g., col. 3 lines 22-45, and figs. 1-2).

As to claim 3, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

means disposed within said device arranged to transform the data format of said received data from said first zone at least twice prior to said data processing (the data from the memory 111 and processor 110 sends to the hardware cryptographic processor 113 for encrypting, then the encrypted data will be passed to the network controller 112 before the data ready to be sent out to the host computer).

As to claim 4, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device as claimed in claim 1 in which said first zone data format is packetized data, further comprising:

means disposed within said device for reading at least one item of identification data from each packet (e.g., col. 3 line 76-col. 4 line 2, col. 5 lines 10-19, col. 6 lines 32-65, and figs. 4A-C);

wherein said processing means is arranged to process each respective packet in dependence on each corresponding item of identification data (e.g., pair of markers 403 and 404 are inserted into the package as IDs for later retrieval from the other host computer, col. 5 lines 7-20 and fig. 4A).

As to claim 5, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device as claimed in claim 4 further comprising:

a store located within said device for storing one or more rules, each rule being linked with at least one of item of identification data; wherein said processing means is arranged to

Art Unit: 2179

process each packet in dependence upon the rule linked with the corresponding item(s) of identification data (Thakur inherently shows this feature because different data package will have different way to insert the markers (IDs) for identification).

As to claim 6, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein one of the first and second interfaces is suitable for connection to said host such that the data format utilized by such a connected interface is one utilized by the host (e.g., fig. 1, computer 102 and 104 are constructed similarly, col. 3 lines 40-54).

As to claim 7, Thakur teaches a computer/network interface device in claim 5 wherein one of the first and second interfaces is suitable for connection to said host such that the data format utilized by such a connected interface is one utilized by the host in which, in response to receiving at least one control packet including at least an item of control identification data and control instructions through the other interface which is not connected to the host and reading said item of control identification data from a control packet, said processing means is arranged to change said rules in said store in dependence upon said corresponding control instructions (Thakur inherently shows the features because the encrypted package could be an executable instruction of a control/icon/function, which being sent from the other sources).

As to claim 8, it can be rejected as a similar rationale as claim 1 above; moreover, the whole purpose of encrypting data using hardware cryptographic processor as clearly provided by Thakur to prevent unauthorized party to access and read the data during transferring process.

As to claims 9-11, they are method claims of system claims 1-3. Note the rejection of claims 1-3 above respectively.

As to claim 12, this is a method of system claim 8. Note the rejection of claim 8 above.

As to claim 14-18, they are similar in scopes to claims 2-5, and 7 above; therefore, rejected under similar rationale.

As to claim 19, it can be rejected under similar rationale as claim 8 above.

As to claims 20-23, they are method claims of system claims 12, 14, 15, and 19. Note the rejections of claims 12, 14, 15, and 19 above respectively.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2179

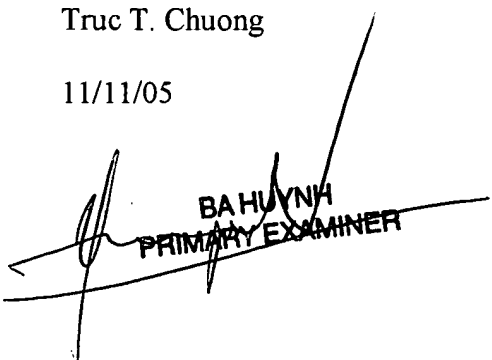
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Truc T. Chuong whose telephone number is 571-272-4134. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Truc T. Chuong

11/11/05


BAHUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER